

March 3, 1980

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started coming down the tube people panicked and they said, look, we will just design a system so that local government, let's take the Lincoln School District for example, so that they won't be burdened by this and we can opt out of the state lid and write our own budget, and, of course, they were thinking whether they wanted to write 11 or 12 or whatever percent. But the funny thing about laws and swords is they got two sides and while they were looking at what the one side might do they forgot that it had a sharper knife on the other side. LB 2 is a boomerang and a hoax reversed back on ourselves, back on the public, and if you will check what has happened since we started playing with our silly lid laws, the way we designed them, with our LB 2s, you will find exactly as warned at the time. You will find that property taxes have gone up more than any other time, precisely because the original LB 1 or whatever it was, the 7%, didn't pass with the emergency clause and had the delay in it. You built in pads and everything else. The mockery has come home to roost and that is that ill-designed politically expedient lid laws do more damage than good and have precisely the opposite effect. Now if you want to cut property taxes, and by golly there is nobody on this floor fought more to cut property taxes than I, then you do it very simply. You cut programs. You cut agencies. If you want to cut taxes at the state level, you start cutting things there. You face up to the fact maybe that we can't afford as a state...

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute left.

SENATOR DE CAMP: ...maybe we can't afford two dental schools or one dental school. Maybe we can't afford two medical schools. Maybe one and a half million people can't afford a School of Architecture. Maybe we can reduce the Department of Agriculture significantly. Oh, the wailing and moaning when we start cutting things, that is what you do to cut spending. You don't create artificiality with bulges, loopholes, distortions.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have thirty seconds left.

SENATOR DE CAMP: You do it straight on. You start cutting. You can do it that way and when the budget bill comes up I am sure there will be ample opportunity for you to see if you are really serious as we try to get some proposals ready to see where we can cut.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the DeCamp amendment to the Keyes amendment to 163 (sic). All those in favor of the DeCamp amendment vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? I am going to call the vote. I am going to call the vote. Okay, record the vote.